



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE PHOTO OPPORTUNITY

January 25, 2006

6th ANNUAL RIVER POND CLASSIC HITS THE RIVER THIS WEEKEND.

The Forks, Winnipeg – Good old-fashioned shinny hockey is back at The Forks and it's shaping up to have the most teams ever. The River Pond Hockey Classic will be three days of "pick-up" hockey played on the beautiful Assiniboine River Pond Rink at The Forks Historic Port.

But what is shinny? "Shinny is really just the hockey your grandpa used to play. It's got six skaters and one goalie and minimal equipment," says Paul Jordan, Chief Operating Officer of The Forks. "There's no goalie equipment and all you really need are skates, a stick and a desire to play fun, no frills hockey."

Play begins on Friday, January 26 from 6-8PM and Saturday, January 27 and Sunday, January 28, from 9AM – 4PM, and all hockey games will be held on the two rinks in The Forks' Historic Port.

The FREE tournament is open to all ages, girls and boys, men and women. Skill level is not important and everyone from novices to pros can play.

Each team consists of seven players: 3 forwards, 2 defence, a goalie and a rover. Two or more spare players will be allowed if needed. There are no slapshots, no body contact and no puck raising. Each game runs for two 15-minute periods.

The players themselves come from far and wide to play in the tournament including The Grizwalds, a father and kids team from Starbuck, MB along with The Colorado Lows, a team of players direct from Colorado who will be making their third trip up to Winnipeg.

-30-

For more information contact:

Chelsea Thomson
Communications Coordinator
The Forks North Portage Partnership
Phone: 204.987.4374
Cell: 291-9444
Email: chelsea.thomson@tf-np.ca

On site event contact this weekend:

Jerome Arnal
Event Coordinator
Phone: 801-3690
Email: jeromea@mts.net

